

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AID-10 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 LAB-01 SIL-01 EB-03 COME-00 TRSE-00

AF-04 ARA-10 NEA-06 DRC-01 /068 W

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FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0808

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1569

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UNIDO, AG

SUBJECT: UNIDO - ALGERIAN CANDIDATE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REFS: (A) USUN 2464; (B) ALGIERS 1267

1. OUR CURRENT READING ON SELECTION OF ALGERIAN CANDIDATE IS (A) THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE, AND (B) THAT FONMIN BOUTEFLIKA WILL SELECT CANDIDATE PERSONALLY, POSSIBLY IN CONNECTION WITH LONG-RUMORED CABINET RESHUFFLE.

2. WE HAVE HEARD FOUR NAMES MENTIONED IN CONNECTION WITH ALGERIAN CANDIDACY. THEY ARE MINISTER OF COMMERCE LAYACHI YAKER; MINISTER OF FINANCE SMAIN MAHROUG; PRESIDENT OF CAMEL (LNG JOINT VENTURE) ABDELKADER CHANDERLI AND ECONOMIC COUNSELOR OF PRESIDENCY DRISS DJAZAIRI. CHANDERLI TOLD EMBOFF JULY 13 THAT HE WOULD ACCEPT JOB IF OFFERED BUT THOUGHT HIS SELECTION UNLIKELY BECAUSE HE SPOKE NO GERMAN. CHANDERLI ALSO SAID HE DOUBTED THAT SELECTION
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WOULD BE MADE BEFORE LATE AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER.

3. ACCORDING TO ANOTHER ALGERIAN SOURCE WHOSE INFORMATION IS USUALLY RELIABLE, BOUTEFLIKA FAVORS MAHROUG FOR POST. CHANDERLI, THIS SOURCE SAID, IS LEAST LIKELY POSSIBILITY.

4. ALGERIANS HAVE REPORTEDLY OBTAINED ADVANCE ENDORSEMENT FROM OAU AND ARAB LEAGUE FOR THEIR CANDIDATE, WHEN SELECTED, BUT WERE UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING SIMILAR SUPPORT FROM ISLAMIC SUMMIT IN KUALA LUMPUR.

5. COMMENT. IF AS APPEARS FROM FOREGOING ALGERIAN SELECTION IS TIED TO CABINET RESHUFFLE, TIMING BECOMES DIFFICULT TO PREDICT. MINISTERIAL CHANGES HAVE BEEN RUMORED AS IMMINENT FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR.SIMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ALGIER01569
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740194-1158
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740736/aaaabeit.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: (A) USUN 2464; (B) ALGIERS 1267
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <13 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIDO - ALGERIAN CANDIDATE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TAGS: AORG, APER, AG, UNIDO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005